republics of the same blood.

Diamonds are extensively mined on the fields of Jagersfontein, where the famous 900 carat Jagersfontein Excelsior was found, on May 30, 1803, and Koffyfontein, in the district of Fauresmith, which is in the southwestern part of the Republic. The importance of these mines can be seen when it is known that the diamond output of the Jagersfontein field for January was 15,189 carats, valued at \$150,000, while that for Koffyfontein for the same period was 1.500 carats, valued at \$11,000. This is part of the contemplated war prize in the present conflict.

The inhabitants of the Orange Free State are, like the Boers of the Transvaal, a peaceful, educated and well-governed people. The country is divided into nineteen districts, each one of which is presided over by a landdrost, or magistrate. Each of these magisterial districts is again subdivided into one, two or more wards, according to its size or importance. Each of these wards sends a member to the Volksraad, or Legislature. In addition to this each town also sends a member to the Volksraad. To this Legislature the people delegate the government of the country. The President, who is the responsible head of the executive department, is advised by an Executive Council and by the High Court, which is composed

of a chief justice and two puisne judges.
The Government obtains about \$2,000,000 annually from the revenue of the State to meet its expenditures. This revenue is mainly derived from the following sources: Quit rent on farms, at the rate of 48 cents for each 100 morgen, or 200 acres; transfer dues on unmovable or fixed property at the rate of 4 per cent; a 2 per cent, rate on movables, that is, all goods sold by auction; a but or capitation tax of \$2.50 a head on natives. From the Custom House there is received about 00,000 a year. This is obtained from a 12 per cent, ad valorem levy on all over-sen goods crossing the border. These dues are, by virtue of a treaty with the Cape Colony Government, levied at the ports of Cape Colony. They are also levied on the Natal border by Orange Free State officers In accordance with the provisions of the customs union existing between the Cape Government and the Free State. The former remains 3 per cent. of the 12 per cent duty levied to recoup itself for the expense of collecting these customs dues for

The Orange Free State expends about \$150,000 annually on roads, \$300,000 on bridges, and large sums, for so small a country, on public buildings. In fact, nearly one third of the entire revenue of the State is absorbed by educational grants and public works. This would be a very fine show-

ing for countries outside of Africa.

The government of this Boer State is very careful about the education of the children of the land. For this purpose a permanent fund of \$1,000,000 is set aside. The educational department is a very thorough one. This department is under a superintendent who has under him a corps of inspectors and sub-inspectors. him a corps of inspectors and sub-inspectors. There are now about eighty fine government schools with a staff of 150 teachers. These schools are exclusive of private and non-aided schools, such as those which are maintained by the Catholics, the Anglicans, and other religious depondinations. The government schools are of three kinds, viz.; town, ward and peripatetic schools. To teach them, the instructors are divided into first, second and third class are civided into first, second and third class according to the grade of their certificates from the board of State examiners. This board is composed of nine members who are appointed by the President of the Republic. This board has wide powers. It can grant certificates of professions of the land surveying, and in science and literature generally. The only higher chiration schools supported by the State are Dames antiture Ladies' Seminary; and Grey College.

cation schools supported by the State ate Dames nostitute (Ladies Seminiry) and Grey College, both of which are at Documente. In these institutions the students are prepared for matriculation at the Cape University in Cape Colony. Students desiring a university education must, therefore, go the South Africau College at Cape Town, or to Victoria College at Stellenbesch.

The great majority of the citizens of the Orange Free State are, from the excumptances of their Dutch origin members of the Dutch origin members of the Dutch origin to the Church of the Land. There is a congregation in nearly everylittle village of the country. The government annually contributes about \$40.000 to the support of the religious sect. It is paid, into the church synod to be used as that body deems fit. This synod meets every other year in the month chirch synoi to be used as that body deems fit. This synoi meets every other year in the month of May at Hoemlontein the capital. It is composed of the pastor and a lay member of each congregation. The following denominations also have churches in the Orange Free State. The Episcopalians, Lutherans, Catholics, Methodists, Baptists and Presbyterians. Their individual memberships are small. The Episcopal Church has a respectable following: at Bloemfontein it has several school buildings. Among them are St. Amirows College for joys, and St. Michael's Home for girls. The Scharatist Dutch Church also has several important congregations in the country. The Dutch Reformed Church has a mission established at Witzeshock. The Berlin Mission Society has important missions at Bethany Mahoela (in the Ladybraml district) and other places.

The climate of the Orange Free State is dryer. This is

under the direction of a commandant. Their principal duty is to suppress thefts of stock and to see to the proper administration of the States pass laws.

5. There are drastic measures in regard to insolvency, the registration of deeds municipalities and marriages. The last are virtual copies of similar acts in Cape Colony and Natal.

6. The Orange Free State has a sort of Maine Liquor law. It was passed in 1883. This statute absolutely prohibits the saily of alcoholic spriis of any kind to the tribesmen and to people of color generally. It prevents its saile to any one except in towns. There is no license granted for the sale of strong drink outside of municipalities. Though only 50,000 square miles in area, the size of an American State, this Republic has had a streing history since the first white nen peoples it in 1845, sixty five years ago. These settlers were refugees from Cape Colony, hunting for a quiet, peaceful home morth of the Orange River. Some of these emigrants founded the South African Republic, or Transvaal. These pronect farmers found only hands of savage liushmen and Korannas in the new country. They organized a sort of community band or maatschappi. In 1847, the Britist Governor of Cape Colony proclaime! all territory between the Vaal and the Orange Rivers as Hritish country. A resident agent was then placed at Bloemfontein. This state of severeingnty continued until 1854, in the Orange River as Hritish country. A resident agent was then placed at Bloemfontein. This state of severeingnty continued until 1854. In that year the continued troubles with the Basutes and Griquas caused the English Government to relinquish the country north of the Orange River, by the convention of Bloemfontein, signed Feb. 23, 1854, the country north of the Orange River, by the convention of a surface of the Griqua tribe. The new Government guaranteed the rights of the persons and property of British adopted the Connection of Adam Kok, the chief of the Griqua tribe. The towns and slavery was not to be allowed. The

the common law of the land. The courts follow this in the absence of specific statisticy provisions. Liberty of the press and freedom of speech are guaranteed by the fundamental law. The Con-stitution cannot be amended or repealed eyeep by a three-fourths vote at each of two annual sessions of the Legislature. The Constitution of the country was revised and re-enacted on of the country was revised and reconciled on March 9, 1896, and again on May 8, 1879. The changes were minor. From 1854 until now the Orange Free State has been a Republic. It has had eight Presidents in that time.

changes were minor. From 1854 intil now the orange Free State has been a Republic. It has had eight Presidents in that time.

During these forty five years of independence the Orange Free State has experienced the following events. There was a string of this wars with spasms of peace from 1858 to 1868. After these ten years of tribal wars the republic triumphed. The Basutos had been so completely whipped that the British Government at the carness entreaty of Chief Moshesh, the paramount of the tribe, proclaimed the unaniexed part of Basutoland as British territory. In 1871 the Government of Queen Victoria annexed Griqualand West, or the Diamond Fields, which was then nominally under the rule of Waterboer, chief of the Griqua tribe. The Free State demanded this country, having acquired it by cession and purchase from the predecessor of this chief. To settle this dispute Great Britain agreed to pay to the Free State \$450,000 for a clear fille to this hand. In 1888 the Orange Free State formed its customs unlon with Cape Colony. In the railway union the Cape Government agreed to build a railway through the Free State at its own expense and risk at a certain sum per mile. The tariif of passengers and goods over this time was to be mutually agreed upon. The Orange Free State having a first the symptomic of taking over this time was to be mutually agreed upon. The Orange Free State having the Breathie of taking over this time was to be mutually agreed upon. The Orange Free State having the many through the Free State at its own expense and risk at a certain sum per mile. The tariif of passengers and goods over this time was to be mutually agreed upon. The Orange Free State having the first warming the first at the hardon of taking over this time was to be mutually agreed upon. The Orange Free State in the South Africa in the public. This line and its feeders connect all the harbors of Cape Colony with the Republic for seven years. This road was opened in fully, 1882. Since then it has produced an estimated annual pro

For any violation of the sanctity of hospitality of the Boer home the culprit will barely escape with his life. While under welcome the visiter is treated like a son or a daughter. The Boers are not an immoral people. They are a plain, simple, severe but kind and hardy rose. An infusion of Huguenot blood in the burginess of the Free State makes them an active and enterprising community of sturdy yeomen.

# The Oath of the Boers.

From the Baltimore Sun. This peculiar solemn pledge was subscribed at a meeting held by them on April 12, 1879, at Wonderfontein, in the Transvaal and is given as reproduced in the Acial Witness.

"In the presence of Almighty God, the Searcher of Hearts, and praying for lis gracious assistance and mercy, we, burghers of the South African Republic, have solemnly agreed for us and our children to unite in a holy covenant, which we confirm with a solemn oath. It is now forty The climate of the Orange Free State is dryer and colder than that of its neighbors. This is due to its altitude and inland position. It is therefore, healthful for weak lungs. Its dry season is in the winter time, but its periods of rain, and moisture are uncertain. The high elevation is affected by the evaporation of the lower countries, which drifts up into the Wittebergen (White Mountains), Rosdebergen (Hed Mountains), and the Drakensberg, where it condenses and frequently floods the streams, causing them to run hankers ten to twenty feet above their mormal watermark. The last named peaks rise to 11,000 feet, and are popularly called Monts and Sources or mounts of sources from the number of streams which rise in them. In the winter time the rivers are shallow. Some of them hardly flow. They degenerate into what are called pans (see cow or hippopotamus water holes), which have drifts or fords here and there. This is due to the dryenses of the season. In the summer these water courses are dangerously swollen, often rising in years ago since our fathers left the Cape

THE ORANGE FREE STATE.

\*\*PROPER AND ARTHUR RESOURCES OF the Control of the Contr

toward the liver and white statue they look appreciatively at their dog friends. "Good work" they say. They are at intervals of five yards They pass the rigid figure, going slowly. Five yards further on and the air is filled with the thunderous roar of wings and brown bodies speeding. Eight successive reports snap spite-fully and five birds strike the tops of the high grass, killed instantly twenty feet above the earth. he remainder of the flock shoots away with lightning rapidity, weaving slightly from side to side as it goes. It is late in the season and they will cover a good mile before they pitch They have gone a hundred yards when it is seen that one of their number lags. Its legs hang pitifully down and its speed becomes slower and slower. It has been hard hit and the chilled shot are doing their work. An instant fater and it pitches headlong. Each of the dogs has dropped selly to the ground as the guns spoke and now he panting but quiescent. The one furthest away, a beautifully bannered setter, is brought forward by a wave of the arm and told to get the istant bird. The others are set to work retrieving the prev near at hand. In five minutes the ack has resumed its journey, the dogs still casting about the prairie

Owing to restrictions placed upon chicken shooting of late years, the shortening of the open season and the limitation of the number of them one man may legitimately slay in a day, the birds have increased. They have stood the hard winters well and there has not been sufficient drouth o prevent the raising of the young broods. In Iowa, Nebraska, southern Minnesota and South Dakota shooting is better than it has been for five years past. It has been found impossible, of ovisions, ovisions, and the general structure of the Control of th have done much to discourage the wholesale butcheries of the past. Still, prairie chickens are being shipped out of the State in barrels. billed to the caterers of the big cities as all sorts f produce from potatoes to pumpkins. It is estimated that in Nebraska alone the killing for this season will not fall short of 100,000 birds. This includes slaughter by all sorts of people, from the farmer's boy who takes an occasional pot-shot to the man who makes a living by it, Shooting licenses, however, gun licenses, the cost of teams, the necessity of having highly trained dogs, the amount of time that must be taken from other work, have tended to keep many men out of the field. Only those in comfortable rircumstances are able to shoot chickens steadily as an amusement. 'Pap' Reynolds, a hotel man, who has been pursuing them with vigor for twenty years, estimates that every chicken he has brought to hag cost him not less than \$1 in cash, and since he lives here in the heart of the chicken country his expenses have been much lighter than those saddled upon men who come from the big towns far away for a day or two on the prairie. The time has long gone by when a man could throw his gun over his shoulder, whistle to his dog, walk a mile out of Emerson and make a bag of a dozen in an hour or two. Now to get good shooting it is necessary to make a long drive into the country, where corn fields do not line each side of the road making it a lane, and

where there is some grass and wildness left.
The hardness and fecundity of the prairie chicken need no further proof than its survival unier the steady butchery to which it has been subjected. It has been shot down to a fitteth part lected. It has been shot down to a fitteth part of its former numbers, but, like the quail, it seems to fight successfully against the most hostile environment. Given the slightest chance and it breeds its way back into the thousands in a year or two. The average number of a broad is twelve though there have been broads which contained thirty individuals. Also it is not an uncommon thing to find two large breeds neeged, and when the security has been proposed to the property of the number of the first two larges to the security the unstrument of the number of the first two larges are proposed to the security the unstrument of the number o thing to find two large broods merged, and when the occurs the observing no of them may be heard a mile away. The habitat of the chicken extends from a little south of the Canadian line to the Gulf of Mexico but it shees not raise two broods in a year in any part of the country as does the qualities young, however, develops or apidly are hatched with such instinctive watchfulness and slyness, are early so swift of fost and possess such from constitutions that the percentage of mortality is slight until man begins the chase. The ien is especially careful of her offspring, and will not hesitate to offer bathe to mink or fox or any other one of the small preducty fairm which like chicken meat. Formerly the coveys suffered severely at the talous of hawks, but of late years the gun of every farmer has been against the hawk, and this miniature eagle is by no means so common as it once was.

The life of the chicken, passed for the most part.

every farmer has been against the hawk, and this miniature eagle is by no means so common as it once was.

The life of the chicken, passed for the most part upon the open plain, renders it beculiarly hable to a swoop from above. For protection from such attack it depends almost entirely upon its ability to hide, and thousands of years of attempted concealment have resolited in making of its coat a marvel of protective coloration. It is a large bird—quite as large as the ordinary 'duighill' fowl of the farmyard—but with nothing more to aid it than a small tuft of brown grass and a little hollow, it will so dispose lively that the human eye will travel over it time and again without seeing it. Years ago "Pap" Reynolds dealt faro in the West. He ran a barroom in Silver City, a dance hall in Butte and killed a man in Las Yegas. He has led rather a wild life, and is not a strict moralist to-day. He says, however, that his only act of which he is unable to think without blushing, came about in this way. Walking with gun and dog across the praine one day his setter came hard down on a point. The ground in front was almost as bare as a floor. Scattered grass grew here and there, but not thickly enough to hide a wire. It is currosity aroused, Reynolds stood two feet behind the dog and searched the ground carefully in an endeavor to find the brid. Again and again his eye passed over the surface, but not even an inequality was visible. Five minutes were spent in this way, the setter still atanding immovable. The dog was an excellent one, and the man was willing to back its nose against

the practic checken, like all other wild member of the gallinacea, is monogramous from choos a comparative scarcity of males does not affect

is due to the fact that after the hen begins laying the coak pays no further attention to her. He does not bring her food, he does not take his turn at sitting and he does not associate with not care for the young. Consequently, having assisted in the production of one family, he is free to consort with another impressionable kinswoman. This monetamy from choice and polygamy from necessity also obtains often among quals.

The sport of chicken shooting as now practised is a hav sport. There is not a great amount of evercise in it though a man gest his fiver shaken up by constantly chimbing into and cant of his wagen, and he swallows many culic foet of fresh air and powder smoke. Powder smoke is healthy. The game covers such distances that seven-league basts would hardly suffice for its pursuit on foot illuming parties such distances that seven-league basts would hardly suffice for its pursuit on foot illuming parties stick to the toals, turning out upon the prairie only where the ground is sufficiently smooth to make easy going. The dogs suffer most, an active pointer of setter being required to cover stay unless in a way. As there is not much water in the country the steams being infraquent and the little lakes or pands generally dry in the late fall, it is the custom to carry a keg of water for the benefit of the dogs. Setters because of their heavy coats become the somer exhausted. On the other hand, when the birds take to the birds which grow along the water courses, pointers become practically useless. Fifteen minutes of such work will dive one from nose to tail in broody red. Setters also stand the sand bars better, having tougher set. The "ambutance" permits the carriage of any quantity of luncheon and lashings of beer and nobedy who has put in eight morning hours grassing prairie chickens is ever worfied by an absence of thurst. Of lare years the 16 gauge have than the 12 gauge, which is the best calibre for a person able to own hut one gun, nor because it is so effective as the logauge, for it is not bu bundred 12 gauge shells and a hundred 16 gauge shells the bigger part of a day is considerable. Moreover, a 16 gauge, being of small bore, requires no choke and the end of the barrels is apt to remain in good condition longer. These gauss are now put out by all high-class American makers at a cost of not more than one third of the English prices, and, so far as observation goes, they shoot just as well as the most expensive arms imported from the other side. It is a satisfaction to a man to be able to say that his gau cost '60 guineas,' or '70 p ind,' but he can't get any more chickens with it.

Sometimes the big brown bird at which small arms are now populing all over the Middle West is good eating and sometimes it is not. The quality of its flesh depends entirely upon the season at which it is stain. Killed in September or even so late in October as now, it is apt

quality of its fiesh depends entirely upon the season at which it is stain. Killed in Septem-ber or even so late in October as now, it is apt to be, when properly prepared, all that the epi-cure could ask. It is tender, july and has dis-tinctly the "rame flavor" that is not to be found in any domestic fowl, the flavor which makes the wild turkey so immessirably the superior of its domestic brother. When the learful Western winter is in mile old, however, with the story the wild urkey so immessirably the superior of its domestic brather. When the fearful Western winter is in mid cold, however, with the snow packed two feet deep on the level and every ice-laden branch of the costonwoods whining in the gale, the prairie chicken as an edible is not what it has been represented to be. It is almost certain to be devoid of fat; it is dry and stringy; it caves much more like a decoy than a real bird and it is rank. It has no white meat on its bones. Even the flesh of its breast is dark, and in January becomes almost black. When in condition the birds are excellent if "smothered," that is, placed in a lidded oven, with an inch of water and proper seasoning and allowed to bake and a rich gravy has resulted. This process keeps in the steam and preserves the natural juices. They are not good broilers and do not roast so well as the barnyard fowl. To fry them, of course, is a crime.

## JAPANESE POLICE ELIQUETTE, Rules of Deportment for Their Intercourse

With Foreigners. Chief Inspector of Police Ikigami Shiro of Hingo Ken, Japan, takes a fatheriy as well as a disciplinary interest in the force under his command. He wishes the men to win the respect of foreigners by conforming to the strangers, deas where circumstances permit. He has given instructions to the commanding officers of stations on the subject and some of them have been

translated into English The Chief Inspector tells his officers and men that they should not make calls on a foreigner in the early morning, at meal times or late at night if they can help it. At any rate they should pay good attention to their clothing prior to he call, and they should never call out for adnittance to a house but should use the bell or mg provided, or if there is neither, then knock gong provided, or if there is neither, then knock with their fingers, and before entering the house they are enjouned to clean their boots. They must not carry a cigar into the house nor take a seat until asked to do so, they are informed, and when you call on a loreigner in private cloth-ing take off your hat and overcoat outside the room and leave them in the proper place. The former is, however, sometimes carried into the room.

me of Ikigami Shiro's directions as to con-Some of Ikigami Shiro's directions as to conduct might be pressed upon the uniformed forces in the foreigners' countries. Thress your hair and heard always," he says; "dirty clothing and an unkempt head are an insult in civilized countries. Cut the finger nails properly and keep them clean. Keep your boots clean and your handkerchief clean. Don't spit in or out of the room; never smoke in presence of a lady; it is a gross insult to put out your hand to a lady before she does. Greetings to a foreigner are conveyed by a simple bow; don't shake hands with them I you are not invited to do so."

These are a few of Mr. Ikigami Shiro's lessons in deportment for his force.

### Nature's Backwardness. From the Indianago is Journal.

The Critic-That does not look the least like nature.
The Artist—True enough, no doubt; but don't you think nature will reach it some day if she keeps improving?

BRYN MAWR GHOST TALES. CREEPY STORIES THAT GIRL STU-

DENTS TELL ONE ANOTHER.

launted House of the Tory Miller Who Was Hanged-The Mysterious Red Eye-A Commonplace Gray Lady - The Most Dreadful Story of All Saved Till Midnight. "Bryn Mawr has many ghost stories," said he Graduate Student. "I have often wondered that the folk-lore people have overlooked us so long. They could trace here, compressed into a short space, all the steps of oral tradition. Each class that enters the college corresponds to a generation in the outside world. By word of mouth each class passes on to its successor a great body of tradition. There are many rules of college life that have never been written out and hundreds of college customs that are absolutely sacred and yet depend for their tile on oral repetition slone. Some things are lost and some are improved in course of transmission. Then there are our sagas about certain professors and our hero stories about past students. But our ghost stories are the most surprising of all for a nineteenth century college, not yet out of its long. They could trace here, compressed into

our hero stories about past students. But our ghost stories are the most surprising of all for a nincteenth century college, not yet out of its teens."

The friend of the Graduate Student waked to a sudden interest at this crafty return to the subject of ghost stories. She begged for those that were evidently being held back and was rewarded[by an invitation to waik to the haunted house. It was a sunshiny October day and their path led first through the private grounds at the back of the college. The sloping sides of a considerable hill were covered with woods, maple, chestnut and beech for the most part, all agiow at this time with varying shades of yellow and brown. There was sense of warm ripeness everywhere. Some leaves had already failen and rusted under foot. The similght filtered through the scanty foliage, and now and then at the right or the left resied in a blaze of crimson and dark red on the low dogwood trees.

Suddenly the marrow wood road they were following opened into a cleared space. There in the centre was a little cemetery shut in by a stone wall and almost free from trees. At one end the graves were arranged in an orderly way and marked by marble head stones. In the centre were a fittle cemetery shut in by a stone wall and almost free from trees. At one end the graves were arranged in an orderly way and marked by marble head stones in the centre were a fittle cemetery shut in by a stone wall and almost free from trees. At one end the graves were arranged in an orderly way and marked by marble head stones in the centre were a fittle cemetery shut in by a stone wall and almost free from trees. At one end the graves were arranged in an orderly way and marked by marble head stones. In the centre were a few other graves overgrown with myrtic, in their dark, glossy green the occasional forest leaf glowed with the richness of a fewel And then, at the other end of the enclosure, came buddled closely a number of graves marked only by rough field stones set at head and foot.

"The Harriton family emer

sile that gave entrance to it. "Family at one end, slaves at the other."

"Has it any story." asked the friend.

"That is the oddest thing about it," replied the Graduate Student. "It is the most beaufulg and impressive graveyard that I have ever seen. There is something reverential in the way these recs draw back. There is the stillness and lone liness of the forest. There is everything to touch the imagination, and yet we haven't a single story about the place nor the hint of a story."

From the cemetry the road ied steeply down the hill and out to the edge of the near pond. From there, keeping to the public road, they skirted the pond and then past the golf grounds of the Merion Cricket Club, up hill and down hill, until they came suddenly to a brawling stream that runs from the Far Pond. Here the road ended. There had once been a crazy footbridge across the stream, but a spring freshet had swept it away and nothing but stepping stones were left. At the edge of the stream rose one of the deserted stone houses so common now in Pennsylvania. Built before the Revolution, it had been meant to stand for many years longer, and so the walls were still firm, although the roof had fallen in and the floor timbers rotted away. The cedar trees, which are as characteristic of the Pennsylvania farm house as the sugar maples are of the Account ruined house stood beyond, and a maple of respectable girth, having sprung up within it, was already pushing its limbs over the walls. Decaying vegetation was every where. The only modern note was a tall, red factory chimney rising infact outside the ruins lives as a stout, healthy where the many vegets long the respectable girth, having sprung up within it, was already pushing its limbs over the walls. Decaying vegetation was every where the many vegetable girth, having sprung up within it, was already pushing its limbs over the walls. Decaying vegetation was every where the norm of the same house in the ruin that room. She had never head they be the room. She had never head the sto

Forge and no where else around here, so far as I

know." she said. A few moments more brought the girls out abruptly at the edge of a dam, over which the stream made a considerable fall. On the opposite bank were the crumbling ruins of a large stone

mill. "Notice that mill," said the Graduate Student.

"We'll come back to it presently."

They made a burried circuit, with the stream far below at their left and a still, deep canal at their right. The lofty retaining wall showed that the half deserted village must once have been ich and ambitious. It gave greater emphasis to the present silence. They walked along on a level with the roots of Glenwood below them, made a sudden turn around the gable of one of them and came down on the road. Crossing, they turned back in the direction from which they had come. On both sides of them were old stone houses dating back for the most part to the times before the Revolution. One, in fact, bare on its plastered gable the date, 1690. Perhaps half the houses were deserted, and over the rest hung the silence of a great dread. Now and then a face was seen at a window, peering out with a furtive glance. There were no cats or degs or children. Suddenly, too, they noticed that the sun was behind the cloud and the light was duil.

The Graduate Student shivered. "It is a curious fact," she said, "that the sun is always behind a cloud when I come here. The first time there was a terrible thunder storm and we took shelter on the porch, but we got so nervous after a while that we preferred to walk home in the rain rather.

When they moved into the house. She reappeared about the time when the room was opened and furnitished."

"Surely Bryn Mawr has no other ghost stories." "Their is a story which we have borrowed from the number was on the rain state? "With that the graduate Student put down her commande and in the midst of his fooling throttled him the midst of to the present silence. They walked along on a

that we preferred to walk home in the rain rather than stay longer. I have been caught in the rain several times coming here."

By this time they had reached the house in

question, a two story stone house, approached by steps and a narrow path leading under great cedar trees. A piazza, supported by rough green cedar trees. A plazza, supported by rough green posts, ran across the front and one side, and on the gable above the piazza was cut in stone the date of building, 1753. An L. far advanced in ruin, extended from the other side. The main part of the house was still sound and whole, even to its roof and floors. The windows were protected by green wooden shutters, each pierced by a single heart-shared hole. The yard was filled with a mass of pale blue asters, and back of the house was a row of box trees, well grown and faintly odorous.

be buried under it. I did not have courage to step across and go through the dark passage beyond.

"I want you to see the inside," continued the Graduate Student. "The door has been left open all this last year. I think the owner has given up the struggle, and wants the house to go to ruin as soon as possible. You see," she said, as she pushed open the door, "It was a beautful house once. You come into this great square hall, and in front of you is the little staircase clingring to the wall and turning a corner to a balcony. Beyond are large, square rooms, with panelling and carving. It is a beautiful house still, or it would be if it were not for this."

She three open the door leading to the L. There were the empty walls, stone on stone, with bits of plastering still clingring, with the splintered ands of beams still clingring, with the fireplaces still gaping wide.

New England farms, had grown that. A second ruined house stood beyond, a maple of respectable girth, having sprung within it, was already pushing its limbs over walls. Decaying vegetation was every ere. The only modern note was a toll, was compared to the haunted force. She is a selection of the haunted force his could story chimney rising intact outside the ruins was useless, yet in perfect preservation, and hardly show what it was selected, but the came here, and here she could anifestly more recent than the buildings near by. The haunted housel' exclaimed the friend. "Notatall," replied the Graduaic Student. "Only the Decame hysterical and forced her to wake. The last might show were unsuccessful nor why they were abandoned. I have questioned the people in the village and they either cannot or will not tell me anything most here. She was a stronger, the cannot or will not tell me anything most here is always to she compromised by stiffing a she cannot or will not tell me anything most here. She was a stronger, the condition of the proposition of the proposit

out as he said. While the children were young they saw nothing, but four or five years ago the oldest son met a lady dersead in gray. She passed him on the stairs and he, supposing her to be one of his sister's fir nds, said nothing. Then his youngest sister saw the same lady in gray standing in the sitting room. She was holding back the curtain to look out of the window, but when the sister entered the room, she turned and went out. She is always like that, silent, ladylike, almost commonplace. She seems to live in the house like one of the family. There is only one member of the family who has never seen her. That is the next to the oldest daughter, who attends to the housekeeping and ought to have been the first to see her.

Is there any reason for the Gray Lady's ap-

Is there' any reason for the Gray Lady's ap-pearance" asked the friend.
"None that is known. They connect her, how-ever, with a small room which they bearded up when they moved into the house. She reappeared about the time when the room was opened and

by steps and a marrow path leading under great cedar trees. A piazza supported by rough green posts, ran across the front and one side, and on the gable above the piazza was cut in stone the date of building, 1753. An I., far advanced in ruin, extended from the other side. The main part of the house was still sound and whole, even to its roof and floors. The windows were protected by green wooden shutters, each pierced by a single heart-shared hole. The yard was filed with a mass of pale blue askers, and back of the house was a row of box trees, well grown and faintly odrous.

By you feel anything queer? asked the Gradual. The stant house was now of box trees, well grown and faintly odrous.

By you feel anything queer? asked the Gradual. The stant house he was looking out of that hole replied the friend, pointing toward one of the lower-shutters. I shall have hysterical if you don't tell me the story shall have hysterical reports the stant house when the story may be been something definite instead of gain. The hird night the strain had become if you don't tell me the story shall have hysterical reports the stant house on the graves, said the Graduale Student, dully. They were standing against the fence, gazing toward the old house, when the older girl began the strain and the mill that we passed at the dam lived in this house, she said. The was a Tory. When the Continental troops bought floor, of the skates again coming down. He waited for them to pass hanged in Philadelphia. The story is true.

"And why does he haunt the house."

"The old reason, burde treasure. People have met their death there. You reach a certain point, an invisible gun is fired at you, and you drop dead with a bullet wound in your breast, but no bullet. Or you take a step forward and are swallowed up by a sudden opening in the sarth. I have been in the collar myself, and have she had the facts are the stant in the facts are well as the said that the left and the received shifted to the bed and strangeled his point an invisible gun is fire

the ghost. One is that the fellow went mad from remorse and loss of sleep and strangled him self. The other, the more probable, is that by means of hypnotic influence, exerted unconsciously as a result of his terrible mental and bodily condition, he forced the friend with whom he had taken refuge to kill him as he had killed his room mate.

At this point the fraduate Student chose to stop and light the lamp. This done she began again.

"I have told you our most dreadful ghost stoy, it is usually saved until midnight when the inches are out. Then it is told in a dramatic way that makes your flesh creep. I never knew any one who was wholly unaffected by it. Most girls stay wake night after night as a result of it. The trouble is that we all have transons and we hear the skates in our own halls and see fine hands and the face at our own transons. I had an especially hard then because my couch is exactly opposite my transon and it sleep facing it. I cannot bear the story and seldon tell it.

"Those are all the full grown ghost stories that we have as yet, here in college, but if we keep up our interest in psechological phenomena and indian philosophy and such things. I have no doubt that we shall have more in the course of a few years. Indeed, I think I know of one that is forming now, but it is too sont to say anything about it. You know we sometimes have ghost parties where we tell all the ghost stories we have ever heard. Some of these may be adopted. There are many possibilities. But, at bedom, every thing with us is a mater of oral tradition, and you cannot calcuate on that."

### QUEER HUMAN NATURE!

Inconsistency Not the Least Amazing of Our Human Characteristics. "Human nature is a queer thing, and I got a

limpse of a phase of it which set me thinking not long ago," said the woman who has travelled "It was in the Allegheny Mountains, where I spent a summer with a jolly party. One day, we draye up the mountain to see a view which is noted in the surrounding country. At the foot of the climb, which must be made on foot, we left our carriages at a delightful old fashioned farmhouse where we found that we could order a meal, to be ready when we returned. You know what a mountain appetite is, and may be sure that we eagetly seized the opportunity to satisfy the hunger which might otherwise have made cannibals of us during the long ride home. Two of the party had chosen to come on horseback, and their steeds had either failed to fulfill the promise of the glowing enlogies of their owner, who had boared them, for a consideration, or else the twain had stopped for a little lovemaking by the way At any rate, they were not in sight, and we de cided to wait for them. While doing so, we strolled idly about the fields surrounding the house. It was just after harvest, and the place was in such perfect order that we complimented the farmer as we went. The house was set, among its gor-geous old fashioned flowers, at the foot of a slight rise and as we ascended this, we came to a small enclosure, evidently the family burying ground. Up to the very fence, the scythe had done its per-fect work, but inside, was a tangle of blackberry vines, weeds and dank grass. The few head-stones were sunken and neglected and the graves utterly uncared for. The whole place had such a neglected, desolate air that it was a blot on the glowing August landscape and we welcomed the shouts which told of the arrival of the truants

and called us to seek pleasanter surroundings.
"The view was magnificent and we lingered until the pangs of hunger reminded us of the meal which was doubtless awaiting us. When we reached the farmhouse, we were directed to the back door, where we found, to our delight, a real old-fashioned water bench with pall and basin, and here we made our primitive allutions, drying our glowing faces on a coarse but spollers roller towel. Then we were ushered into the dining room, a long, low apartment, which was decorated with maps and ancient pictures of simpering ladies, clad in scarlet gowns, with wondrous coiffures and eyes which were larger than their mouths. The table shall I ever forget these superiors are superiors and eyes which were larger than their mouths. The table shall I ever forget thouse given a dyspeptic dreams for a month. At one end was a huge newly boiled ham, at the other a lofty plate of fried chicken; there were two plates of onions, pecked and served whole; two dishes of cucumbers, dressed with cream huge dishes of honey and preserves galore, and last, but not least, piles of buckwheat cakes baked the full size of the griddle and covering each a dinner plate. meal which was doubtless awaiting us. When

is last, but not least, piles of buckwheat calces baked the full size of the griddle and covering each a dinner plate.

"After the meal we repaired to the parlor, fearful and wonderful in its ornamentation of worsted and bead work, while horses and divers were feel. Two members of the party had brought guitars; these were fished out, while some sought the vine-decked porch to see the moon rise. Soon the strains of a popular song rent the air, and half a dozen voices burst into the robicking words. They had scarcely sung a verse when the master of the house, a typical farmer, with collarless shirt end trousers in broats, appeared. He said: "I den' want to spoil any o' your fun, folks, but my pious companion an theen dead a year, an' lean' these many hymn chunes as you want." Then some one opened the ancient parlor organ in the corner, and soon we all joined in the rolling notes of the old hymn. 'How firm a Foundation.

"It was not until we had silently entered the waiting carriages and lest the less ig impse of the old farmhouse at the hend of the read that so me one enembered the neglected burying ground in which the plous companion was taking herbora of our drivers had attended the funeral, and I have never been able to understand how the man who could give strangers such a meal as it at for

A Factor of Increasing Importance in Some

Political Calculations. By the federal census of 1890 there were in New York county 10,535 inhabitants of French nativity, 2,402 in Kings county and 605 in Richmond county and that part of Queens county which is now a part of New York city- a total of 13,542 in the whole territory. If that was the measure of the French population in the present city of New York which by the same census had a foreign born population of 950,000 it would be relatively insignificant, but for two reasons it is not. The Belgian residents of New York, the Swiss residents, the Afsatians, are all included under separate designations from the French but for practical purposes all the Belgians nearly all the Alastians no rethan half of the Swiss residents (many of them engage in the slik-weaving and watch-making hereabouts) act in their relations to public affairs with the French. With these additions the total number of French speaking residents of New

York is in excess of 25 000. French immigration to the city of New York did not begin, as Irish immigration did, practically, in 1844, as German immigration did twenty years later, or Italian immigration did ten years after that, but has been continuous since the four dation of the city, many of the early inhabitants of which were French Huguenous. Under these circumstances, the actual number of persons in the city who were born in France does not give an accurate reflex of the number of French or Franco-American residents. For still another reason the importance of the "French vote" as called in New York is greater than the figures would indicate. Nearly all of these voters. Frem b. Swiss, Belgian and Alsatian are in three Assem-

bly districts, the Third, Fifth and Twenty fifth, The importance in the political aspect of what is sometimes called a foreign vote is the incom siderable measure to the solidarity of that a se siderable measure to the solidarity of that you. There are, for instance, many Swedes in New York county, but their political inthemore is inconsiderable in view of the fact that may be used to give them little voice in the affairs of any district. No Swedish candidate has been numered for a public office in New York for twenty his years, despite the fact that Swedes and Dones as a rule make excellent and circumspect onto 6, on the filler of the third that the fact that Swedes and formation in the Eleventh ward, the Bohemians, numerous in part of the Nineteenth, and the Russians in a numerous in the Tenth, have, all three of themerous on the Tenth, have, all three of themerous of the Nineteenth and the Russians in a numerous in the Tenth, have, all three of themerous and the American condition of a filling applies to 0.5 French voters, especially in the two districts. The same condition of the Hird district, Joseph Welling, who is a candidate for redection on 15 Tammany tester this year, is of French description of the French redection on maximum of the French redection on maximum to the Fifth Assembly district last year against what they considered to be the district from the Democratic to the Republican column.

A disadvantage under which French resident and the their general unfamiliarity with the face. There are, for instance, many Swedes in

have herefolder suffered in their effort to be more active part in podicial matters in New is due to their general unfamiliarity with the lish language, and to the circumstance that are pretty evenly divided between the two pa-being Democrats and Republicans in about proportions. In the last two years, however, voters of French birth or processity in the lay sembly districts in which they are most name have been acting beginning and the pro-

sembly districts in which they are most have been acting together, and the succe efforts in 1807 and 1838 seems to rende the permanence in the future of the a another. "hydienated faction" of mini-tors. There are lew indigent vice is a ment Americans in New York, and a still sim